

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 ABF-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 H-03

EB-11 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 /152 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JLWASHBURN/DD

APPROVED BY IO/WBBUFFUM

IO/CMD:JWMCDONALD

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

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R 221859Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057838

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, UNRWA, XF, US

SUBJECT: UNRWA FINANCES

1. UNRWA COMGEN RENNIE TOLD ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM IN MEETING MARCH 19 THAT ALTHOUGH UNRWA'S IMMEDIATE CASH POSITION HAD EASED SOMEWHAT, AND HE WAS HOPEFUL OF FURTHER RELIEF FROM AN EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTION BY THE EEC, HE WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO MAKE REDUCTIONS IN UNRWA'S SERVICES IF MONEY TO MEET UNRWA'S ONGOING DEFICITS COULD NOT BE FOUND. RENNIE SAID THAT IF THERE WERE NOT A REASONABLE PROSPECT OF SUCH FUNDS IN SIGHT DURING APRIL, HE WOULD REQUEST
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MEETING OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADVISE IT REDUCTIONS

WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN MAY.

2. BUFFUM TOLD RENNIE USG WAS CONCERNED AT UNRWA'S FINANCIAL CRISIS AND WOULD TRY TO BE HELPFUL IN RESOLVING IT. HE ADDED THAT USG DOES NOT, HOWEVER, WANT TO BE ALONE IN CONTRIBUTING TO RESTORE UNRWA'S SOLVENCY STRESSING THAT IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT VIS-A-VIS CONGRESS TO DEMONSTRATE THIS IS A SHARED EFFORT. BUFFUM SAID THE QUESTION INVARIABLY AND UNDERSTANDABLY ALWAYS ARISES AS TO WHATTHE OIL-RICH ARABS IN PARTICULAR ARE DOING TO HELP THEIR BRETHERN.

3. RENNIE SAID HE INTENDS TO WORK THROUGH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ARAB LEAGUE TO GET THE OIL PRODUCING ARAB

COUNTRIES TO RECOGNIZE THAT THEY MUST MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA MORE PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR RESOURCES AND THEIR STAKE IN THE FATE OF THE REFUGEES. HE PLANS TO GO TO CAIRO NEXT WEEK TO PURSUE THIS EFFORT.

4. RENNIE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MIGHT AGAIN MAKE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA AND EXPECTS EEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO TAKE UP SUBJECT SHORTLY. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE057838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JLVASHBURN/DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740062-0648
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740321/aaaaaubh.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNRWA FINANCES
TAGS: EAID, XF, US, UNRWA, EEC
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005